



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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May 14, 2009

The Honorable Dave Reichert
United States House of Representatives
1730 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Reichert:

On behalf of the City of Kent, please consider this our formal request that \$15 million for the Green River Valley Grade Separations Project be included in the surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

This project, which is our City's highest priority for the reauthorization legislation, includes construction of five grade separations within the three freight corridors of S. 212th, Willis and S. 228th Streets that together serve 42 million square feet of manufacturing and distribution space and 50,000 jobs within Kent's Green River Valley.

Our request, along with other identified funding sources, makes up over 80% of the total funding for this combined \$189 million project. The additional funding sources include the City of Kent, the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board, the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board, the Union Pacific and BNSF Railroads, and the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma.

The City has maintained regular dialogue with stakeholders throughout the River Valley corridor and intends to follow established public input processes through SEPA and NEPA as well as continuing communication as outlined in the City's public information plan.

The project's benefits include:

- Enhanced freight corridors through the core of the Kent Valley
- Direct freight access from Port-to-Valley
- Improved safety
- Reduced emissions and noise pollution

These funds would allow the construction of individual, ready-to-go grade separations. We look forward to meeting with you and your staff to provide information highlighting the return on investment the Green River Valley Grade Separations project will provide.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request. I can be reached at **253-856-5700** to discuss any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzette Cooke".

Suzette Cooke, Mayor



OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN DAVE REICHERT (WA-08)

CONGRESSIONAL SITE VISIT CERTIFICATION

In the interests of accountability and transparency, we require that either the Congressman or a member of the Congressman's professional staff visit each project site requesting federal funding. This will enable our office to more thoroughly assess the merits of each project and ensure that limited taxpayer funds are invested wisely.

Upon completion of the congressional site visit, please complete this form and have a representative from the organization (not a representative from a lobbying firm) sign it. The Congressional Staff Member visiting the site will be responsible for collecting the form at the time of the visit.

I hereby certify that on May 1, 2009, 2009 Congressman Dave Reichert/a professional staff member from Congressman Dave Reichert's office visited our organization/project for the purposes of reviewing our request for federal funding.

PROJECT NAME: Kent Valley Grade Separation

DATE OF CONGRESSIONAL VISIT: May 1, 2009

NAME OF PERSON CERTIFYING: Ben Walters

TITLE OF PERSON CERTIFYING: Economic Dev. Dir.

LEGAL NAME OF ENTITY MAKING REQUEST: City of Kent

LEGAL ADDRESS OF ENTITY MAKING REQUEST:

SIGNATURE: Ben Walters

DATE: 5/1/09

MEMBER/CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER: Thomas B. Young

SIGNATURE: Tom B. Young

DATE: 5.1.09